SERIAL No. 09/209,323

203-327-6

**GROUP NO.:3739** 

wherein the controller cycles the output power by applying a predetermined amount of output power to said tissue, lowering the output power upon an output voltage reaching a predetermined maximum, re-applying the predetermined amount of output power to said tissue if a measured tissue impedance does not indicate desiccation of the tissue, and terminating [terminates] output power when the measured tissue impedance exceeds a predetermined value, the predetermined value corresponding to a desiccated condition of tissue.

- 2. The generator of claim 1, wherein the controller changes the voltage to cycle the output power.
- 3. The generator of claim 1, wherein the controller changes the output current to cycle the output power.
- 4. The generator of claim 1, wherein the output voltage is cycled by lowering the output voltage once it reaches a predetermined maximum and raising the output voltage if the reduction in measured tissue impedance does not indicate desiccation of the tissue.
- 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Amended) The generator of claim [5] 1, wherein the output power is cycled at a frequency that is between 1 and 20 Hz.
- 7. (Amended) The generator of claim [6] 1, wherein the output voltage does not exceed 120 volts.
- 8. The generator of claim 1, further comprising a comparator wherein the measured tissue impedance value is compared to a first signal representative of a desired tissue impedance value by the comparator and a difference signal is produced.
- 9. The generator of claim 8, wherein the difference signal is input to the controller which generates a signal to adjust the power.
- 10. The generator of claim 8, wherein the first signal has a cyclic pattern.

- **GROUP NO.: 3739**
- 11. The generator of claim 10, wherein the first signal is a sine wave.
- An electrosurgical generator for treating tissue by applying energy 12. (Amended) comprising:

a desiccation detector for measuring a degree of desiccation of tissue; and

[means] a controller for minimizing the burning of tissue[, the minimizing means] comprising power control circuitry [a controller] for repeatedly increasing and decreasing output power to the tissue to be treated, the [controller] power control circuitry coupled to the desiccation detector and operating to adjust[ing] the output power in response to the degree of desiccation of the tissue by applying a predetermined amount of output power to said tissue, lowering the output power upon an output voltage reaching a predetermined maximum, and re-applying the predetermined amount of output power to said tissue if said desiccation detector does not indicate desiccation of the tissue.

- 13. (Amended) The generator of claim 12, wherein the output power is terminated by said controller upon detection of desiccated tissue.
- The generator of claim 13, wherein the desiccation detector further 14. (Amended) comprises impedance measuring circuitry, wherein the degree of desiccation of the tissue is determined by the [measured] impedance of the tissue measured by the impedance measuring circuitry.
- 15. (Amended) The generator of claim 14, wherein the <u>circuitry adjusts the</u> output power [is adjusted] by adjusting the output voltage within a predetermined voltage range.
- 16. (Amended) The generator of claim 12, wherein the output power is repeatedly increased and decreased by the circuitry at a frequency between I and 20 Hz.
- 17. A method for applying energy to tissue to treat tissue, the method including supplying a generator having a power control system to produce an adaptive oscillatory power curve to minimize the heating effect on tissue, the method comprising:
- a) applying a high current into a low impedance load until a maximum power is

**GROUP NO.: 3739** 

## reached;

- b) adjusting the output voltage to maintain constant output power as impedance increases as tissue begins to desiccate;
- c) dropping the output power in response to a rapid rise in tissue impedance indicating the boiling of tissue;
- d) allowing the tissue impedance to fall to a predetermined minimum value and then raising the output power to cause an increase in tissue impedance;
- e) repeating steps b and c until impedance reaches a maximum value.
- 18. A method for applying energy to tissue to treat tissue, the method including supplying a generator having a power control system to produce an adaptive oscillatory power curve to minimize the heating effect on tissue, the method comprising:
- a) applying a high current into a low impedance load until a maximum power is reached;
- b) adjusting the output voltage to maintain constant output power as impedance increases as tissue begins to desiccate;
- c) dropping the output power if the output voltage exceeds a maximum value;
- d) raising the output power after a predetermined period of time to cause an increase in tissue impedance; and
- e) repeating steps b and c until impedance reaches a maximum value.

Please add the following new claims:

-19. A method for applying energy to tissue to treat the tissue, comprising steps of: